

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 /079 W  
-----050480 251711Z /43

O 251624Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7167  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PDEV, RH  
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: SALISBURY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MESSAGE ON  
ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE

1. THE RHODESIAN MISSION IN CAPE TOWN HAS JUST PROVIDED  
US THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT BY GAYLARD ON BEHALF OF THE  
SALISBURY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL STATING THAT THE PROPOSED ALL-  
PARTIES CONFERENCE APPEARS DOOMED TO FAILURE AND URGING  
URGING US/UK TO REEXAMINE THEIR POLICIES "IN THE LIGHT OF RADICALLY  
CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES IN RHODESIA." THE MESSAGE, ADDRESSED  
TO THE US/UK AMBASSADORS FOR TRANSMISSION TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS,  
IS TO BE RELEASED AT 1900 SALISBURY TIME.

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2. BEGIN TEXT:

1. AS WE UNDERTOOK TO DO, WE HAVE GIVEN CAREFUL AND MATURE  
CONSIDERATION TO THE POINTS MADE BY DR. OWEN AND MR. VANCE AT  
THE MEETING IN SALISBURY ON 17TH APRIL, AND IN PARTICULAR  
TO THEIR PROPOSAL TO STAGE AN ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE.

2. WE APPRECIATE THE EARNEST DESIRE OF THE BRITISH AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING A PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE IN OUR COUNTRY THROUGH THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS OF FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT A CONFERENCE ON THE LINES SUGGESTED WOULD HAVE ANY MORE PROSPECT OF SUCCESS THAN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE OF 1976. IT APPEARS TO US TO BE DOOMED TO CERTAIN FAILURE. WE THEREFORE URGE THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO RE-EXAMINE THEIR POLICIES IN THE LIGHT OF THE RADICALLY CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES IN RHODESIA.

3. WITH THE SIGNING OF THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT ON 3RD MARCH AND THE SUBSEQUENT REPLACEMENT OF THE RHODESIAN FRONT GOVERNMENT BY THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT AN ENTIRELY NEW SITUATION HAS BEEN CREATED. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE NATIONALIST PARTIES, NAMELY, MAJORITY RULE ON THE BASIS OF UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE, IS ENSHRINED IN THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT, THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE FULLY IN ACCORD, NOT ONLY WITH THE SIX PRINCIPLES ENUNCIATED BY SUCCESSIVE BRITISH GOVERNMENTS, BUT ALSO WITH THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS OF SEPTEMBER 1977.

4. THE AGREEMENT IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING IMPLEMENTED AND ALREADY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. THIS WILL BE ACCELERATED AS THE CEASE FIRE ARRANGEMENTS GATHER MOMENTUM.

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5. THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ARE UNITED IN THEIR DETERMINATION TO PROCEED AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE WITH THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION. THEY ARE ALSO UNITED IN THEIR RESOLVE NOT TO RE-OPEN NEGOTIATION ON MATTERS WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN DECIDED AS A RESULT OF THREE MONTHS OF HARD NEGOTIATION INVOLVING CONCESSIONS BY ALL THE PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT.

6. AS WE HAVE POINTED OUT PREVIOUSLY, THE LEADERS OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WERE NOT EXCLUDED FROM OUR NEGOTIATIONS. THEY EXCLUDED THEMSELVES. IT WAS REPEATEDLY MADE CLEAR THAT THEY WOULD BE WELCOME TO RETURN AND PARTICIPATE, PROVIDED THEY RETURNED IN PEACE. THEY SPURNED OUR OFFER AND REITERATED THEIR INTENTION TO SEIZE POLITICAL POWER BY FORCE OF ARMS. FROM THEIR RECENT STATEMENTS IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THEY HAVE NOT CHANGED THEIR STANCE, BUT WE HAVE NOT CLOSED THE DOOR TO THEM. IT REMAINS OPEN, PROVIDED THEY UNDERTAKE TO OPERATE PEACEFULLY.

7. WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED AT THE PLIGHT OF THE THOUSANDS OF OUR CIVILIANS WHO ARE BEING HELD AGAINST THEIR WILL IN CAMPS, MAINLY IN ZAMBIA AND MOCAMBIQUE, UNDER MOST UNSATISFACTORY CONDITIONS. THE GREAT MAJORITY WERE ABDUCTED OR COERCED INTO LEAVING THE COUNTRY AND THEY INCLUDE LARGE NUMBERS OF CHILDREN

WHO HAVE BEEN FORCIBLY SEPARATED FROM THEIR PARENTS.  
WE URGE THE BRITISH AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS TO  
USE THEIR GOOD OFFICES WITH THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED TO FACILITATE  
THE EARLY RETURN OF THESE PEOPLE SO THAT THEY MAY BE REHABILITATED  
AND RESTORED TO THEIR FAMILIES AND HOMES.

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8. DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS ON 17TH APRIL, DR. OWEN STATED THAT  
THERE WOULD BE NO RECOGNITION OF LIFTING OF SANCTIONS UNTIL  
AFTER THE FIRST ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN HELD AND THE MAJORITY RULE  
GOVERNMENT INSTALLED. DR. OWEN STATED THAT ONLY THEN WOULD THE  
FIFTH BRITISH PRINCIPLE RELATING TO ACCEPTABILITY BY THE PEOPLE  
OF RHODESIA BE SATISFIED. THIS CONTRASTS WITH THE WHITE PAPER  
PROPOSALS, IN TERMS OF WHICH SANCTIONS WOULD HAVE BEEN LIFTED  
AS SOON AS THE TRANSITIONAL ADMINISTRATION HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED.  
IN THAT CASE THE PRINCIPLE OF ACCEPTABILITY WOULD PRESUMABLY  
HAVE BEEN SATISFIED BY THE ACEUESCENCE OF THE LEADERS. DR.  
OWEN'S STATEMENT THEREFORE APPEARS TO ACCORD A POWER OF VETO  
TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AS LONG AS THEY OPPOSE THE  
SALISBURY AGREEMENT. WE URGE THE BRITISH AND UNITED

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STATES GOVERNMENTS TO RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION IN THIS REGARD. WE ARE SATISFIED THAT COLLECTIVELY WE HAVE OBTAINED THE SUPPORT OF THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION FOR THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT AND WE ASK THAT THE BRITISH AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS SHOULD CONSIDER PUTTING THIS TO AN EARLY TEST. WE ARE NOT CONCERNED SO MUCH WITH FORMAL RECOGNITION AS WE ARE WITH COUNTERING THE EFFECTS OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC RECESSION BY AN EASING OF THE RESTRICTIONS ON OUR TRADE, SO THAT WE CAN ALLEVIATE UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG BLACKS AND PROCEED TO MAJORITY RULE WITH A SOUND AND STRONG ECONOMY.

END TEXT.

NELSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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